

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A copper base alloy suitable for use as a material for a sliding member comprising, by mass %,   
\_\_\_\_\_ 15 to 25% Zn,   
\_\_\_\_\_ 4.2 to 10% Bi,   
\_\_\_\_\_ 2 to 7% Mn,   
\_\_\_\_\_ 1 to 3% Si,   
\_\_\_\_\_ 0.05 to 0.3% Se,   
\_\_\_\_\_ optionally 0.01 to 0.2% B, and   
\_\_\_\_\_ balance of Cu and unavoidable impurities,   
\_\_\_\_\_ the alloy having a structure of which matrix is composed of  $\alpha$ -single phase, wherein a eutectic structure of the  $\alpha$ -phase and an Mn-Si compound and Bi particle are distributed throughout the matrix.

2. (Original) A copper base alloy according to claim 1, which has a Vickers hardness ranging from 90 to 180.

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3. (Original) A copper base alloy according to claim 1, which is heat-treated to be hardened so as to have Vickers hardness ranging from 120 to 180.

4-7. (Cancelled)